

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 17-21 were withdrawn from consideration and have been cancelled herein.

Claims 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13-14 and 16 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Claims 1 and 12 enable connection modes of a ring transmission system including both a DCP (Drop and Continue on Protection) connection and a DTP (Dual Transmit on Protection) connection in a BLSR structure.

These DCP and DTP connections are realized or supportable by creating a RIP table. Thus claims 1 and 12 includes creating a RIP table holding a primary node identifier indicating a primary node which transmits said optical signal from said first ring transmission path to said second ring transmission path, a secondary node identifier indicating a secondary node adjacent to said primary node to transmit/receive said optical signal, and said drop node identifier for each of a working line and a protection line on the basis of said crossconnect information.

In addition claims 1 and 12 include a setting in which a first and second ring system are combined as more particularly recited in each claim. The features are supported by the applicant's original specification for example page 15, line 24 to page 16 line 5. No new matter is entered.

Claim Rejection

Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Taniguchi et al., (U.S. 6,122,250) (Taniguchi).

The cited reference Taniguchi describes a basic BLSR structure, which is for designing a ring topology representing an order of nodes, and also a squelch (squelch process) indicating both an add-node ID and a drop-node ID when a failure occurs.

Applicant's claimed invention recites features which are not taught nor suggested in the cited reference for example:

The feature of a RIP table which would realize the DCP and DTP.

Further, when the DCP or the DTP ring system is designed, the system requires at least 4 pieces of information corresponding to 4 ring nodes. If descriptions of Taniguchi are applied to a ring system, the ring system has to generate another protocol and based on the other protocol transmits/receives data. In addition, the ring system could not add a flag representing protocol information.

In contrast to Taniguchi, Applicant's claimed invention includes an optical transmitting apparatus for a ring transmission system used in a ring transmission system which is combined (a1) a first ring transmission system with (a2) a second ring transmission system.

In (a1) the first ring transmission system a plurality of optical transmitting apparatuses are connected to one another over a bidirectional ring transmission path having a data link channel in which crossconnect information representing an add node identifier representing a node adding an optical signal and a drop node identifier representing a node dropping an optical signal is written.

In (a2) the second ring transmission system a plurality of optical transmitting apparatuses are connected to one another over a bidirectional ring transmission path having the data link channel.

In addition the optical transmitting apparatus includes a unique combination of features not found in the prior art: (a) a data link reading means; (b) a topology creating means; (c) a data link writing means; (d) a squelch table creating means; and (e) an RIP table creating means.

The present claimed invention includes these distinguishing features and provided novel advantages over the prior art including using both an absolute node ID and a relative node ID. The claimed ring system generates an area which is not used yet, and by that, an easier protocol can be applied to the ring system. The easier protocol enables each of nodes to transmit a plurality of node ID's using the same overhead.

The method of claim 12 includes distinguishing features such as found in claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted independent claims 1 and 12 are in condition for allowance. Claims 3, 5 and 9 depending from claim 1, and claim 15 depending from claim 12, are likewise allowable because these claims 3, 5, 9 and 15 include additional distinguishing features of those recited in claims 1 and 12, respectively.

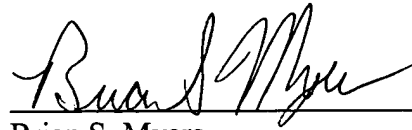
CLOSING

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above remarks, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on
Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian S. Myers", is written over a horizontal line.

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